

HUBR-1206 (10202655)

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

None of the documents cited by the Examiner disclose chitosan as a component of α -lipoic acid compositions. Therefore, the claims directed to the claimed combination are believed to be novel over the cited references, including Ulrich '379.

Additionally, it is submitted that the Examples of the present application demonstrate that chitosan sustains the release of α -lipoic acid (e.g., page 13, Fig. 2). The addition of acetic acid causes improved sustained release which is twice as effective as chitosan alone (page 14, Fig. 2).

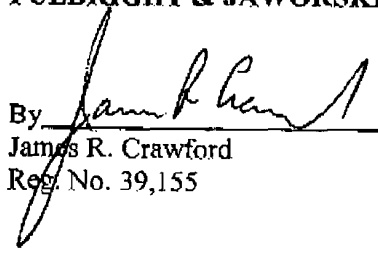
None of the cited references teach or suggest that the claimed combination of chitosan and an acidic compound is able to provide improved sustained release of α -lipoic acid from the formulation.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that all rejections be withdrawn.

Any fees necessary to enter this amendment may be charged to deposit account no. 50-0624.

Respectfully submitted,

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July 20, 2004